

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1-47 (cancelled)

48. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of an estrogen and a fatty acid, wherein part of the molecule is an estrone derivative or an estrogen derivative; and the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of the fatty acid oleic acid, eicosenoic acid, the fatty acid, ~~cis-13~~ docosenoic acid, and the fatty acid, ~~cis-15~~ tetracosenoic acid, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

49-54 (cancelled)

55. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of an estrogen and a fatty acid, wherein the estrogen is selected from part of the molecule is estrone derivative or an estrogen derivative; and the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of the fatty acid oleic acid, eicosenoic acid, the fatty acid, ~~cis-13~~ docosenoic acid, and the fatty acid, ~~cis-15~~ tetracosenoic acid, and with the proviso that, when the estrone derivative or estradiol derivative is steroidal and has a steroid ring system with a C-3 position and a hydroxyl group at the C-3 position, the acyl group of the fatty acid is attached to the hydroxyl group at the C-3 position of the steroid ring system in the fatty acid monoester, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

56-84 (cancelled)

85. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of an estrogen and a fatty acid, wherein the estrogen is selected from the group consisting of a 2 hydroxy derivative of estrone, diethylstilbestrol, estriol, estradiol and ethinyl estradiol, the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of oleic, arachadonic, palmitic, palmitoleic, linoleic, linolenic, eicosenoic acid, C-22 fatty acid, ~~cis-13~~ docosenoic acid,

and the C-24 fatty acid, *cis*-15 tetracosanoic acid, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

86. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a monoester, or a precursor thereof, of 2 hydroxy estrone and eicosanoic or oleic acid in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

87-90 (cancelled)

91. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of ~~an~~ a 2 hydroxy derivative of estrogen and a fatty acid, wherein the estrogen is selected from the group consisting of a 2 hydroxy derivative of estrone, diethylstilbestrol, estriol, estradiol and ethinyl estradiol, the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of oleic, arachadonic, palmitic, palmitoleic, linoleic, linolenic, eicosanoic acid, C-22 fatty acid, *cis*-13 docosanoic acid, and the C-24 fatty acid, *cis*-15 tetracosanoic acid, and with the proviso that, when the estrogen is steroidal and has a steroid ring system with a C-3 position and a hydroxyl group at the C-3 position, the acyl group of the fatty acid is attached to the hydroxyl group at the C-3 position of the steroid ring system in the fatty acid monoester, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

92-115 (cancelled)

116. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of an estrogen and a fatty acid, wherein part of the molecule is an estrone derivative or an estrogen derivative; and the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of the fatty acid oleic acid, arachadonic, palmitic, palmitoleic, linoleic, linolenic, eicosanoic acid, the fatty acid, *cis*-13 docosanoic acid, and the fatty acid, *cis*-15 tetracosanoic acid, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount

sufficient for the purposes thereof.

117. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a monoester, or a precursor thereof, of either ~~an~~ a 2 hydroxy estrone derivative or ~~an~~ a 2 hydroxy estradiol derivative and oleic or eicosenoic acid in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

118. (cancelled)

119. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of either ~~an~~ a 2 hydroxy estrone derivative or ~~an~~ a 2 hydroxy estradiol derivative, wherein part of the molecule is a 2 hydroxy estrone derivative or an estrogen derivative; and the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of the fatty acid oleic acid, arachadonic, palmitic, palmitoleic, linoleic, linolenic, eicosenoic acid, the fatty acid, *cis*-13 docosenoic acid, and the fatty acid, *cis*-15 tetracosenoic acid, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

120-123 (cancelled)

124. (currently amended) A method of lowering body weight in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal an effective amount of a substantially pure fatty-acid monoester, or a precursor thereof, of an estrone derivative or an estrogen derivative; and the fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of the fatty acid oleic acid, arachadonic, palmitic, palmitoleic, linoleic, linolenic, eicosenoic acid, the fatty acid, *cis*-13 docosenoic acid, and the fatty acid, *cis*-15 tetracosenoic acid, and with the proviso that, when the estrone derivative or estradiol derivative, ~~and with the proviso that, when the~~ is a 2 hydroxy estrone derivative or a 2 hydroxy estradiol derivative which is steroidal and has a steroid ring system with a C-3 position and a hydroxyl group at the C-3 position, the acyl group of the fatty acid is attached to the hydroxyl group at the C-3 position of the steroid ring system in the fatty acid monoester, in combination with amounts of at least one member selected from the group consisting of pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and cosmetically acceptable excipients in an amount sufficient for the purposes thereof.

125-137 (cancelled)